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THE DECLARATION OF THE KINGDOMES OF England and Scotland,

Ioyned in Armes for the vindication and defence of their Religion, Liberties, and Lawes, against the Popish, Prelaticall, and Malignant party;

By the Honourable Houses of the Parliament of *England*, and the Honourable Convention of Estates of the Kingdome of *Scotland*, in the yeere 1643.

Die Martis 30 *Ianuar.* 1643.

ORdered by the Lords assembled in Parliament, that the Declaration of the Kingdomes of England and Scotland shall be forthwith printed by the Printer belonging to the House of Peeres; and that no man shall presume to print the said Declaration after the said Printer, as he will answer the contrary at his perill.

J. Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

LONDON,
Printed for *Iohn Wright* in the Old-baily,
Februar. 1. 1643.

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THE DECLARATION OF THE KINGDOMES OF ENGLAND and SCOTLAND,

Joyned in Armes for the Vindication and defence of their Religion, Liberties, and Lawes, against the Popish, Prelaticall, and Malignant party;

By the Honourable Houses of the Parliament of *England*, and the Honourable Convention of Estates of the Kingdome of *Scotland*, in the yeere 1643.

IF either Christian duty, which by reason of the light of the Gospell so clearely shining amongst us, might have been expected from the professors of Religion; Or if naturall affection which even in the Heathen and

Infidels ignorant of Christ, hath abounded toward their native Country, or sincere respect to his Majesties honour and happinesse, could have been found in the waies or hearts of our common enemies, the enemies of Truth and Peace: If they had either feared God or regarded men, or yeelded to our importunities, We had not after so many Petitions, Declarations and Remonstrances as have filled all mens eares and hands, been put to this necessity of a new Declaration (which therefore must be more pathetick and pressing then any of the former:) For after so many troubles and sufferings of the Kingdome of Scotland, after the desolation of the Kingdome of Ireland, and after so much blood, and so many unnaturall Outrages in the Kingdome of England, have We been reduced to this present condition and great distance of Affairs; the Lord whose counsels are a great depth, and who is wonderfull in all his workes, and holy in all his wayes, hath just cause of controversie against us and this whole Iland. But who could have believed that our Religion, Liberties, and Lawes (which for so long a time

time have undergone opposition and Assaults of forraigne power, envying our happinesse, would have been opposed, oppressed and trod under foot by the craft and cruelty of our owne Natives and Countrey men:

In this our extremity, first of all We Declare, that We place not our confidence in our owne counsels and strength, but our confidence is in God Almighty the Lord of hosts, who will not leave nor forsake his people; It is his owne Truth and Cause which we maintaine with all the Reformed Churches, and which hath been Witnessed and sealed by the testimony, sufferings, and blood of so many Confessours and Martyrs against the heresie, Superstition, and Tyranny of Antichrist: the glory of his owne Name, the exaltation of the Kingdome of his Sonne, and the preservation of his Church, and of this whole Iland from utter ruine and devastation is our aime, and the end which we have before our eyes. His Covenant have We in both Nations solemnly sworn and subscribed, which he would not have put in our hearts to doe, if he had been minded to destroy us; The many papers and supplications which

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theſe many yeeres paſt, but eſpecially of late have been offered up with faſting and humiliation, and with ſtrong crying and teares, unto him that is able to deliver and ſave us, are a ſeed which promiſe unto us a plentifull harveſt of comfort and happineſſe; and the Apoſtacy, Atheiſme, Idolatry, Blaſphemies, Prophaneneſſe, Cruelty, Extreſſe, & open mocking of all Godlineſſe and honeſty, have filled the cup of our Adverſaries to the brim, and threaten their ſpeedy and fearefull deſtruction, unleſſe it be prevented by ſuch extraordinary repentance, as ſeemeth not yet to have entered into their hearts.

Upon theſe and the like grounds and conſiderations, being confident that this warre wherein both Nations now ſtrongly united are ſo deeply engaged, is of God; We reſolve with courage and conſtancy unto the end, to doe our part, and the Lord who hath ſtirred up our ſpirits, diſplayed his Banner before us, and given the Alarm, doe that which ſeemeth him good.

Secondly, although every man is to hope for the principall reward of his ſervice from God,

God, who rewardes every one according to his
workes; yet we finde our selves bound in conscie-
ence and equity to Declare, that besides those
who have the publique faith ingaged to them
for their security, such as since the beginning
have done valiantly, and dealt faithfully in
this Cause, and such as have chosen rather to
suffer the spoyling of their Goods, then to af-
fist the Enemy, or to take Armes against their
Religion and Countrey, and shall continue
constant in the same course of doing or suffe-
ring unto the end, shall be according to their
Merits taken into publique Notice and Con-
sideration, their losses (so far as may be) re-
paired, and themselves honoured and reward-
ed by such meanes and wayes, as the truth,
God in his providence shall afford, and the
Parliaments or Estates of the two King-
domes respectively shall in their Wisdome,
Justice and Thankfulnesse judge most con-
venient; so that no man who hath been emi-
nent in action, or hath suffered any notable
losse for the publique, shall be neglected or
forgotten, but one way or other shall be thank-
fully remembred, to his own honour and the
good of his posterity.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, although Neutrality and indifferency in the time of the danger of Religion be a thing detestable to God, Who willeth all Christians earnestly to contend for the Truth, and such as have been Neutralists or indifferent in the times of civill division and danger of the Common-Wealth, have been in all Nations severely punished as pernicious & publique enemies: yet that the consciences of all men may be the more convinced, & all pretexts removed, We give now Publique Warning to such persons to rest no longer upon their Neutrality, or to shelter themselves with the naughty and loathfull pretext of Indifferency, but that they addresse themselves speedily to take the Covenant, and joyne with all their power in the defence of this Cause against the common Enemie, and by their zeale and forwardnesse hereafter to make up what hath been wanting through their former indifferency; that they may finde to be their greatest advantage and safety; otherwise We do declare them to be publique Enemies to the Religion and Country, and that they are to be censured and punished as publique Adversaries and Malignants.

Fourthly,

Fourthly, Because a great many of the multitude of the people, upon ignorant Mistakings, false Informations, and Threats, or Compulsions, against their Wills and inclination, have beene induced or constrained to joyne in Armes With the Enemies against their Religion and Native Country; Wee doe Declare, that all common Souldiers, who upon the humble acknowledgement of their former Errors, shall offer themselves Willingly and speedily to take the Covenant, and shall joyne heartily and really in the defence of this Cause, as becommeth good Christians and lovers of their Country, shall be freely accepted into the Covenant, and their former Error passed by; otherwise let them expect the punishment of Wilfull Delinquents and Malignants.

Fifthly, Because some of the Scottish Nation, upon their owne private respects, or upon specious pretences and faire perswasions, have joyned themselves in Armes With the Popish, Prelaticall, and Malignant party, against the Parliament and Kingdome of England, and not considering the nature of the

Cause in which they have beene engaged, nor the deepe interest of the Church and Kingdom of Scotland, upon which this Cause was to fall in the end, have beene fighting against their owne Religion and native Kingdome; Wee doe therefore againe Warne all such, of whatsoever quality, and in whatsoever place, speedily to withdraw themselves from that Faction, to confesse their mistakes, and to joyne in the Covenant and Cause of God in both Kingdomes before the first day of March next; otherwise Wee Declare, on the behalfe of the Kingdome of England, that they are to expect no favour, but are to be used as desperate Malignants. And Wee Declare, in behalfe of the Kingdome of Scotland, if they either continue in Armes after the foresaid fifth day of March, or withhold their helpe and assistance from their native Country, in the time of trouble and danger, they are to be esteemed and proceeded as publique Enemies to their Religion and Country, perfidious Transgressors of their Solemne Covenant, and therein guilty of sacrilege, and of the ruine of the Kingdome.

Lastly, We must here warne all honest men,

men, Knights, Gentlemen, Citizens, and others, who by forsaking or deserting the Parliament of England, and by joyning themselves to the Enemies of Religion, his Majesties happinesse and Peace of the Kingdomes, have made the Division greater, and the Breaches wider betwixt the King and his Parliament, and thereby contrary to the duty of their places and callings, have beene the cause of the shedding of much innocent Blood, of great Losses, and of many Miseries and dangers, to the Publique of both Kingdomes, and of the Sufferings of private men in their Estates, and Lives, and yet are not to be reckoned amongst the prime Authors of this unnaturall Warre, nor amongst the malicious and desperate Enemies of their Religion and Country: Wee doe Declare, That all such forsaking their former Opposition, returning to their duty, and indeavouring the good of Religion and the publique Peace, shall, as to their lives and liberties of their persons, be secured, and shall be received into favour: But to the end, that a just difference may be made betwixt such persons returning so late to their duty, and

tulation; resolved and decreed never to lay downe Armes till Truth and Peace by the blessing of God be setled in this Iland upon a firme foundation for the present and future Generations, which shall be esteemed of Us an abundant reward of all that Wee can doe or suffer in this Cause.

FINIS.